

### DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

#### **VERTICAL LOUVRE BLINDS**

the specification of which

(Check one) \_\_\_\_\_ is attached hereto.

X was filed on July 21, 2006

as Application Serial No. 10/586,804

and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to be material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §§1.56 and 1.63(d).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

#### Prior Foreign Application(s)

#### Priority Claimed

<u>PCT/GB2005/000198</u> (Number)	<u>PCT</u> (Country)	<u>21 January 2005</u> (Day/Month/Year Filed)	<u>X</u> Yes	<u>      </u> No
<u>GB 0401279.5</u> (Number)	<u>Great Britain</u> (Country)	<u>21 January 2004</u> (Day/Month/Year Filed)	<u>X</u> Yes	<u>      </u> No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States Provisional Application(s) listed below:

#### Provisional Application(s)

#### Priority Claimed

_____ (Number)	_____ (Day/Month/Year Filed)	<u>      </u> Yes	<u>      </u> No
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §§1.56 and 1.63(d) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status: patented,  
pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint all registered patent attorneys associated with Customer Number 50811 assigned to the firm of O'Shea, Getz & Kosakowski, P.C., 1500 Main Street, Suite 912, Springfield, MA 01115, telephone 413-731-3100, as my attorneys to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent and all correspondence relating to this application, and to transact all business in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and the said attorneys are hereby given full power of substitution and revocation.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor: **Stuart Hardy**

First inventor's signature: X 

Date: X 2/11/2006

Residence: **Ivy Farm, Old Woodhouses, Whitechurch, Shropshire,  
Great Britain SY13 4AG**

Post Office Address: *(same as above)*

Citizenship: **Great Britain**